The Brethren Evangelist

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ASHLAND, Ohio, April 17, 1889.

The Resurrection.

Next Lord's Day, April 21, is the day fixed for the commemoration of the Resurrection of Christ. The anniversary day of his resurrection, however, is on Tuesday, now past. There are others who would make it Wednesday of this week. But the day is not a matter of great importance The fact that He rose is the one that the heart of man reaches after. Christ died for all men, and his resurrection is the effectiveness of that death. All will be resurrected in their own order, some to everlasting life, and some to everlasting shame and contempt.

It is well to revere and honor the day and engage in special devotion to commemorate the glorious event; but it is much better to labor constantly in the Lord's vineyard, looking forward all the while to the time when there will be the actual commemoration in the rising from the dead, and a shout of victory shall ascend from the immortal tongues of the redeemed.

The 'Ought' of the Command to Wash Feet.

Just before Christ planted in his church the Holy Supper, he instituted the ordinance of washing the saint's feet as the symbolical representative of the New Commandment, 'That ye love one another; [as brethren] as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.' This love is unlike any other love ordained in the Bible in this, that the love is to be like the love that Christ showed to his disciples, which consisted in that regard and humility that made it a joy to him to do the most humble service that would benefit and make happy and clean his brother, who is begotten of God, and are children together.

This institution was designed to be perpetuated in the family of God, through the commandment, If I then your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye *ought* also wash one another's feet.

This 'ought' is made a stumbling block by many who profess to be the followers of Christ, who place it in their own path of duty, because their hearts are not fully resigned to the Divine Will. There is not a full submission to the will of Christ, and a cheerful willingness to do all that he requires at their hands. The stubborn heart is not wholly converted, and a refuge is taken in what they interpret as the conditional character of the word 'ought.' Let us reason together and learn what there is in the word as it came from the Divine Teacher's lips, and teach it to others.

The literal translation of the word as written by St. John is this, *are bound. Kai humeis ophieilete allelon niptein tous podas.*—also you are bound of one another to wash the feet. Translated it stands thus: *You are also bound to wash the feet of one another.*

The men who translated the Greek into our English Bibles did not believe in washing feet as an ordinance, as the Master gave it, and they therefore gave it the weakest construction in the translation the language would allow.

Ophieilete is literally *are bound*, and it is connected with what Christ said of himself as the Master, with the 'also,' which shows that he was bound to wash his disciples feet.

Ought, in the relation to the remainder of the sentence making the command to wash one another's feet, is a very strong expression. It is not an optional service by any means at all, or so warranted by the word 'ought.'

The naked Greek verb is *Ophieilo.* Liddell and Scott define it like this: To owe, have to pay or account for. In the form found in John xiii, 14, to be bound, to be obliged to do.

Donnegan gives these definitions, to owe, to be indebted—to be under an obligation, duty or necessity.

Greenfield defines the word, to owe, be indebted, to be bound to the performance of some duty, be obliged, be under obligation.

The foregoing is what learned men say the word means in the Greek language in which the command to wash feet was written. You owe it, it is your duty, you are under obligations, you are bound to wash the feet of one another.

Now turn to an examination of other scriptures wherein the same word occurs. It is found twenty eight times in the New Testament, and in every instance the meaning of debt, duty or obligation is found with it.

Mat. xviii, 34, contains the word, and because the debtor did not perform what it demanded of him he was delivered to the tormentors until all the debt was paid. In the 30th verse of the same chapter a man was cast into prison because he did not do what that word required at his hands. In Luke xi, 4, the word is found in the paragraph of the Lord's prayer which relates to the forgiving of sins.

The word is strong enough that it should engage the serious consideration of every one who is concerned about his soul and its future abode. With this obligation, there is appended a promise of happiness, which triples the inducement to obey the commandment.

1. A debt is due the Master, to observe the washing of the Saint's feet because he, as leader loved his disciples, or members of his church, like a kind mother loves her children—ready to perform the most lowly service for their purification and benefit.

2. He has commanded brethren of the church to wash one another's feet by the word 'ought,' which as found in the commands show that they *are bound* to perform the ordinance, as Christ was bound to set the example to comply with the will of his Father.

3. There is a promise of happiness made to all who know those things and do them.

Loyalty to Christ requires every one who calls him Lord and Master to keep the ordinance. Any one who does not, has not been faithful to his Master in all things.

The Sisters' Endeavor.

The Treasurer of the Sisters' Endeavor, Sister Sarah Kiem, publishes her second report of funds received this week. While the amount is no great one, yet under the circumstances, it is most gratifying. One-fourth of the amounts paid in by members is to be sent to the General Treasurer, while the other three-fourths is to be devoted to local work. There are a few private donations in the amount reported, and making allowance for those, the report still represents about $275 which the sisters have gathered together for the support of the cause.

The work commenced in earnest last fall, and when the year is finished not far from $500 will stand to the credit of the different Endeavor Societies for the year's work. We are delighted with this beginning. It shows what a wonderful work can be accomplished for Christ, if organization was effected in all our churches. Thus far the effort is only a babe, which has received no attention from many who sould have kindly nursed it. Taking this for a sample of work, what will the Sister' Society for Christian Endeavor be when it has grown to a strong Woman, in Christ Jesus?

Say $500 for the first year, collected for all purposes—local, state and general work—our church, thoroughly organized, would yield, from the hands of the sisters from $4,000 to $6,000 annually for the Lord's work, and every one would feel more happy from the giving and working. Here is work developing in the church that has a wonderful possibility. Where the Societies are organized and at work, there is greater love for the cause, more interest in the home church and deeper earnestness developed in all. 'All things work together for good to those who love God.' Every minister who is loyal to the Church and Lord, should urge upon the sisters of his church to organize and go to work for the Lord. The worthy president of the Society, Sister M. M. Sterling of Masontown, Pa., is ready and anxious to receive applications for the organization of societies.

Here is a plan which has been developed through much prayer, thought and deliberation and is proving successful. So let all work the plan.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Bro. Edward Mason has written an excellent article on Sprinkle, Pour, Wash and Dip, as found in the Hebrew and Greek of the New Testament. It will be printed soon, and then it will be printed in tract form. It will make a very good document to correct the error that has been planted in the world upon these subjects.

A brother in the west says they think they will have good crops this year and then we will get a list of subscribers from his church. We believe that. There are hundreds who will speedily subscribe if they were able.

Sister Laura Grosnickle has favored the Sister's Department with an excellent article for next week.

Sister Summers, of Louisville, Ohio, sends us a splendid article and says: 'I have tried to write according to your instruction.' She has done well, and her article will find its way before the readers of the EVANGELIST soon. We thank the sister, as we need manuscript. We wish there were others who would go and do as our worthy sister has done. Get your pen and try to write an article to the glory of God, and encouragement of pilgrims on the way to the Kingdom of God.

A brother says: 'Why don't my article appear? I know we don't agree, but I can't help that.' We can't help it either. The office can't afford an editor, and articles must wait until the acting editor can find time to look at them, and sometimes make changes in the punctuation and grammar. The paper does so much better since there is no controversy, that we are going to keep it out, but this decision shall not prevent people from telling their convictions upon subjects which will tend to kill error and build up the truth. But do not think we have time to regard every article sent in as a pearl of great price, demanding of us the immediate surrender of all other duties and conveniences.

In the experiences of life much discrimination is often required to draw the line between the acts of other men which should be forgiven and those that deserve punishment. It is a Christian duty to resist evil, and when evil is resisted some one suffers in consequence of such a course. Christ was a forgiving being, yet he denounced the Scribes and Pharisees in the very strongest language and scrupled not to destroy their influence because it was wholly on the side of wrong and opposed to the truth. Men are now actuated by the same selfish ends and ambitions that have actuated them in the past, and wherever one attempts a good work, though his motives be as pure as were the Saviour's who was opposed and insulted because he wanted to bless mankind, and had no evil designs in his heart, he will meet with resistance and opposition.

Boulangerism is now creating much agitation in France. The Government party is not able to cope with him, and although he has fled from France, yet there seems a disposition in the people to make him the hero of the times, and turn to his support. The assurance in worldly powers is very uncertain. One hour may behold a man on the throne of earthly glory and the next hour he may be fleeing for his life. But this is not true of the salvation of God. When a man once receives that, he has a great possession that will never be taken away from him. John x, 28.

We print this week a part of Bro. J. D. McFaden's sermon on 'The Capital of God's universe,' which is copied from the *Chrystal Palace Weekly Home Journal.* The want of time to prepare to print obliged us to stop off with it. But enough is printed to suggest the full scope of the sermon, and the reader will find it entertaining to draw on his imagination to finish up the streets of the city, and decide who shall inhabit them. We have since been wondering on which street we ought to locate, and how is it with you, reader? As our brother has no cross streets suggested, we suppose there will be no corner lots, and so we need not be covetous in that respect. Are you ready, should the New Jerusalem come down, as John saw it, next week? If not, get ready.

Christ the Victor.

BY CHARLES WESLEY.

'Christ the Lord is risen today!'
Sons of men and angels say;
Raise your joys and triumphs high;
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply.

Love's redeeming work is done;
Fought the fight, the battle won;
Lo! our sun's eclipse is o'r;
Lo! he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell;
Death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King!
'Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
'Where thy victory, O grave?'

The Brethren Annual.

Every family of the Brethren church should secure a copy of the Annual. It is a first rate Calender and contains such church news as every one desires to know. It is worth ten cents to any one concerned in the work. It contains a small, but accurate portrait of Elder S. C. Stump, a pioneer progressive, that many will want to see. Price ten cents each, by mail, or $1.00 per dozen

BRETHREN PUB. HOUSE.

West Alexandria, Ohio.

Bro. Bashor came to our place March 12th, and held a series of meetings, preaching very earnestly and faithfully for nearly three weeks with good results. We feel greatly encouraged, though our accessions were not as many as some expected. There are many more who may follow in the near future. May God help us all to set a good example before those who have lately given their hearts to Christ. Bro. Bashor has made many warm friends, and awakened some of the sleepers and put them to reading and studying their Bibles. We are thankful to God for his goodness to us during our meetings. We had beautiful weather and good attendance all through.

Bro. Tombaugh is our pastor, and he preached a grand sermon today. He is well liked here and has many warm friends. He has now two applicants for baptism. The immediate result of Bro. Bashor's meeting was six accessions to the church. We trust he will be with us again in the near future. May God keep us all faithful until death.

'Courage, brother, do not stumble,
Though thy path be dark as night,
There's a star to guide the humble:
Trust in God and do the right.'

Bro. Mason was with us part of the time during our meeting. We were made to rejoice to hear his voice in songs and praise; it reminded us of days gone by.

JULIA LOWMAN.

Mt Olive, Va.

In response to a call made by the Shenandoah charge, I am now located in my new home in my new field of labor. It was quite a cross to give the parting hand to our dear brethren, sisters, and friends in our old Rockingham home. But when duty calls us we should be willing to make the sacrifices and respond promptly.

My new field of labor is very large and will give a great amount of work, but by a cooperation of both pastor and laity we hope that much good will be done. I feel assured that the brethern and sisters of this charge are in general a band of warm-hearted and zealous workers in the cause of Christ. We ask an interest in the prayers of the faithful that we may be faithful and prompt in the discharge of our duties. My future address will be Mt. Olive, Shenandoah, Co., Va.

J. F. KOONTZ.

Resolutions on the Death of Ezra Bryan.

DIED IN THE FAIRVIEW CONGREGATION, OHIO, DEC. 15, 1888.

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in his inscrutable wisdom to remove by death one of our number, our Christian brother and friend, Ezra Bryan; therefore:

Resolved, That we deeply mourn his departure, yet we recognize the fact that it was the will of 'Him who doeth all things well.' While we feel that it would have been good for us had he been permitted to remain one of our number, yet we know that for a Christian to be with Christ is far better, and so believe that what is our loss is his eternal gain.

Resolved, That we extend our heart felt sympathy to the bereaved family and friends, and while the place made vacant in the family circle can be occupied by him no more here below, we commend them all to seek consolation in God, knowing that 'Earth has no sorrows that heaven cannot heal.'

Resolved, That these resolutions be engrossed on the Secretary's Book, that they may be published in the EVANGELIST and a copy be sent to the afflicted family.

MACK WHITE.
ALLIE VINCENT.
J. M. TOMBAUGH.
Com. for the Fairview Congregation.